

Message Text

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53

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-10 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 DLOS-04

SAL-01 OFA-01 IO-11 EB-07 STR-04 ITC-01 /094 W

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FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6025

INFO COMICEDEFOR

CINCLANT

CNO

SECDEF WASHDC

AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USNATO IMMEDIATE 1336

UNCLAS REYKJAVIK 0183

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS, PFOR, IC, UK, GW

SUBJECT: ICELAND-UK FISHERIES DISPUTE: FONMIN VOICES PESSIMISM

1. FONMIN EINAR AGUSTSSON, IN INTERVIEW PUBLISHED SUNDAY FEBRUARY 8, EXPRESSED PESSIMISM OVER PROSPECTS FOR SETTLEMENT WITH UK AND CONCERN THAT DISPUTE WITH BRITISH COULD CAUSE LAPSE OF FISHERIES AGREEMENT WITH WEST GERMANY.

2. AGUSTSSON TOLD PROGRESSIVE PARTY'S TIMINN THAT LATEST ALLEGED RAMMING INCIDENT FRIDAY NIGHT INDICATED THAT BRITISH HAD "NOT LEARNED THEIR LESSON." HE ADDED THAT UK'S DECISION TO REDUCE NUMBER OF ITS TRAWLERS AND LIMIT CATCH
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IN DISPUTED WATERS CHANGED NOTHING. "I AM VERY PESSIMISTIC

OVER LIKELIHOOD THAT EVENTS WILL CAUSE AGREEMENT WITH FRG TO LAPSE AFTER FIVE MONTHS (PERIOD FOLLOWING WHICH FRG PACT MAY BE SUSPENDED IF ICELAND-EEC TARIFF AGREEMENT HAS NOT BEEN IMPLEMENTED). I FORESEE THAT WE WILL THEN HAVE TWO ADVERSARIES IN FISHERIES DISPUTE," AGUSTSSON SAID.

3. FONMIN DESCRIBED GREAT INTEREST OF NATO IN "LATEST BRITISH INVASION," NOTING THAT NATO COUNCIL HAD MET THREE TIMES ON FRIDAY. HE MENTIONED HIS TELEPHONE CONVERSATIONS WITH LUNS ON SATURDAY, SAYING THAT LUNS PLANNED TO TALK WITH CALLAGHAN AND SISCO OVER WEEKEND AND HAD STRESSED CONCERN AND WILLINGNESS TO DO ANYTHING IN HIS POWER TO FACILITATE SOLUTION.
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